

Serial No. 09/558,920

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007

Page 2 of 15

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1-18 (canceled)

19. (previously presented) A method for tax form submittal verification comprising:
- maintaining an electronically stored profile for a user in a customer database, wherein the profile identifies an expected tax form the user is expected to file, and wherein the customer database is in communication with a taxpayer server via a network;
 - prompting the user, on a client computer, for additional tax-related data, wherein the additional tax-related data is not included in the profile, and wherein the additional tax-related data is required for completing the expected tax form;
 - receiving on the taxpayer server the additional tax-related data from the user;
 - electronically completing a selected tax form, wherein completing the selected tax form includes automatically filling out the selected tax form based on the profile and the additional tax-related data;
 - filing the completed selected tax form with a government entity, wherein the completed selected tax form is electronically transmitted from the taxpayer server to the government entity across the network to be a filed tax form;
 - electronically storing a record of the filed tax form in a government database of the government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the filed tax form has been submitted and wherein the record includes information regarding the filed tax form and is distinct from the filed tax form;
 - receiving from the user a request for the record of the filed tax form to verify the filing of the completed selected tax form utilizing the network, wherein the request is transmitted across the network from the client computer to the government entity;
 - authenticating an identity of the user utilizing the network to request the record, wherein the identity is authenticated by requesting a password and a digital certificate from the user and validating the password and the digital certificates as belonging to the user; and

Serial No. 09/558,920

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007

Page 3 of 15

sending the record of the filed tax form to the user across the network to the client computer upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user to verify that the filed tax form has been submitted.

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising receiving a tax payment of the user by the government entity utilizing the network.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising storing a record of the tax payment in the database of the government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the payment has been submitted.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 21, further comprising receiving from the user a request for the record of the tax payment utilizing the network.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 22, further comprising sending the record of the tax payment to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user.

24. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the filing of the completed selected tax form across the government entity utilizing a network includes the Internet.

25. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 19, and further comprising the step of formatting the record for being printed by the user.

26. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 19, and further comprising the step of sending a notification relating to the record to a mail server of the user utilizing the network.

27. (previously presented) A method as recited in claim 19, wherein the authenticating an identity of the user includes storing the digital certificate on a computer of the user.

28. (previously amended) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for tax form submittal verification comprising:

Serial No. 09/558,920

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007

Page 4 of 15

- a code segment that maintains an electronically stored profile for a user in a customer database, wherein the profile identifies an expected tax form the user is expected to file, and wherein the customer database is in communication with a taxpayer server via a network;
- a code segment that prompts the user, on a client computer, for additional tax-related data, wherein the additional tax-related data is not included in the profile, and wherein the additional tax-related data is required for completing the expected tax form;
- a code segment that receives on the taxpayer server the additional tax-related data from the user;
- a code segment that electronically completes a selected tax form, including automatically filling out the selected tax form based on the profile and the additional tax-related data;
- a code segment that files the completed selected tax form with a government entity, wherein the completed selected tax form is electronically transmitted from the taxpayer server to the government entity across the network to be a filed tax form;
- a code segment that electronically stores a record of the filed tax form in a government database of the government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the filed tax form has been submitted and wherein the record includes information regarding the filed tax form and is distinct from the filed tax form;
- a code segment that receives from the user a request for the record of the filed tax form to verify the filing of the completed selected tax form utilizing the network, wherein the request is transmitted across the network from the client computer to the government entity;
- a code segment that authenticates an identity of the user utilizing the network to request the record, wherein the identity is authenticated by requesting a password and a digital certificate from the user and validating the password and the digital certificate as belonging to the user; and
- a code segment that sends the record of the filed tax form to the user across the network to the client computer upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user to verify that the filed tax form has been submitted.

Serial No. 09/558,920

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007

Page 5 of 15

29. (previously presented) A computer program as recited in claim 28, and further comprising a code segment that receives a tax payment of the user by the government entity utilizing the network.

30. (previously presented) A computer program as recited in claim 29, and further comprising a code segment that stores a record of the tax payment in the database of the government entity, wherein the record represents an indication that the payment has been submitted.

31. (previously presented) A computer program as recited in claim 30, and further comprising a code segment that receives from the user a request for the record of the tax payment utilizing the network.

32. (previously presented) A computer program as recited in claim 31, and further comprising a code segment that sends the record of the tax payment to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the identity of the user.

33. (previously presented) A computer program as recited in claim 28, wherein the network includes the Internet.

34. (previously presented) A computer program as recited in claim 28, and further comprising a code segment that formats the record for being printed by the user.

35. (previously presented) A computer program as recited in claim 28, and further comprising a code segment that sends a notification relating to the record to a mail server of the user utilizing the network.

36. (previously presented) A computer program as recited in claim 28, wherein the digital certificate is stored on the client computer.

37-45 (canceled)

46. (withdrawn) A method for a tax service framework comprising the steps of:

(a) allowing a user access to a tax service server utilizing a network;

Serial No. 09/558,920

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007

Page 6 of 15

- (b) providing services via the tax service server selected from a group consisting of displaying mail to the user from a government entity, searching for a document of the user, and requesting a statement of an account of the user;
 - (c) filing at least one tax form of the user with the government entity utilizing the network;
 - (d) sending the user a receipt reflecting the filed tax forms utilizing the network;
 - (e) storing a record of the filed tax forms in a database of the government entity, wherein the record of the tax forms represents an indication that the tax forms have been submitted;
 - (f) receiving from the user a request for the record of the tax forms utilizing the network;
 - (g) authenticating a first identity of the user utilizing the network, wherein the first identity is authenticated by requesting a password and a digital certificate from the user and validating the password and the digital certificate as belonging to the user; and
 - (h) sending the record of the tax forms to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the first identity of the user.
47. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 46, wherein the step of filing includes:
- (a) permitting access to the tax service server for the government entity in response to receiving a request from the user, wherein access to the tax service server for the government entity allows the user to comply with tax-related obligations of the government entity;
 - (b) determining a second identity of the user based on the request, wherein the second identity includes a name and a tax identification number of the user;
 - (c) displaying the tax forms with fields utilizing the network, wherein at least a portion of the fields are automatically filled based on the second identity of the user;
 - (d) receiving data from the user for filling the fields not filled automatically utilizing the network; and
 - (e) sending the tax forms to the government entity utilizing the network.
48. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 47, wherein the step of sending the tax forms to the government entity includes attaching an encoded digital certificate, the

Serial No. 09/558,920

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007

Page 7 of 15

encoded digital certificate for verifying the second identity of the user of the tax service server.

49. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 48, further comprising the step of receiving confirmation of receipt of the tax forms sent to the government entity, wherein the confirmation is received after the encoded digital certificate is decoded to verify the second identity of the user and authorize the user as a valid user.

50. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 46, further comprising the step of sending a request to a third party financial entity to transfer funds utilizing a network.

51. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 50, further comprising the step of prompting the user to enter a quantity of tax amount to be paid, wherein the transferred funds equal the entered quantity.

52. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 46, wherein the services are provided via a single graphic user interface.

53. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 46, wherein the user is allowed access to the tax service server only after authentication of the digital certificate.

54. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 46, wherein the digital certificate is stored on a computer of the user.

55. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 46, further comprising the step of receiving a tax payment of the user by the government entity utilizing the network.

56. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 55, further comprising the step of storing a record of the tax payment in the database of the government entity, wherein the record of the tax payment represents an indication that the payment has been submitted.

57. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 56, further comprising the step of receiving from the user a request for the record of the tax payment utilizing the network.

Serial No. 09/558,920

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007

Page 8 of 15

58. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 57, further comprising the step of sending the record of the tax payment to the user utilizing the network upon successful authentication of the first identity of the user.

59. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 46, further comprising the step of allowing the user to print the receipt.

60. (withdrawn) A method as recited in claim 46, further comprising the step of formatting the record of the tax forms for being printed by the user.

61. (withdrawn) A computer program embodied on a computer readable medium for a tax service framework comprising:

- (a) a code segment that allows a user access to a tax service server utilizing a network;
- (b) a code segment that provides services via the tax service server selected from the group consisting of displaying mail to the user from a government entity, searching for a document of the user, and requesting a statement of an account of the user;
- (c) a code segment that files at least one tax form of the user with the government entity utilizing the network;
- (d) a code segment that sends the user a receipt reflecting the filed tax forms utilizing the network;
- (e) a code segment that stores a record of the filed tax form in a database of the government entity, wherein the record of the tax forms represents an indication that the tax forms have been submitted;
- (f) a code segment that receives from the user a request for the record of the tax forms utilizing the network;
- (g) a code segment that authenticates a first identity of the user utilizing the network, wherein the first identity is authenticated by requesting a password and a digital certificate from the user and validating the password and the digital certificate as belonging to the user; and
- (h) a code segment that sends the record of the tax forms to the user utilizing the network upon the successful authentication of the first identity of the user.

Serial No. 09/558,920
In reply to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007
Page 9 of 15

62. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 61, wherein the code segment that files at least one tax form includes:

- (a) a code segment that permits access to a tax service server for the government entity in response to receiving a request from a user, wherein access to the tax service server for the government entity allows the user to comply with tax-related obligations of the government entity;
- (b) a code segment that determines a second identity of the user based on the request, wherein the second identity includes a name and a tax identification number of the user;
- (c) a code segment that displays the tax forms with fields utilizing the network, wherein at least a portion of the fields are filled based on the second identity of the user;
- (d) a code segment that receives data from the user for filling the fields not filled automatically utilizing the network; and
- (e) a code segment that sends the tax forms to the government entity utilizing the network.

63. (withdrawn)⁹ A computer program as recited in claim 62, wherein the code segment that sends the tax forms to the government entity includes a code segment that attaches an encoded digital certificate, the encoded digital certificate for verifying the second identity of the user of the tax service server.

64. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 63, further comprising a code segment that receives confirmation of receipt of the tax forms sent to the government entity, wherein the confirmation is received after the encoded digital certificate is decoded to verify the second identity of the user and authorize the user as a valid user.

65. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 64, further comprising a code segment that sends a request to a third party financial entity to transfer funds utilizing a network.

66. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 65, further comprising a code segment that prompts the user to enter a quantity of tax amount to be paid, wherein the transferred funds equal the entered quantity.

Serial No. 09/558,920

In reply to the Office Action mailed January 24, 2007

Page 10 of 15

67. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 61, wherein the services are provided via a single graphic user interface.

68. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 61, wherein the user is allowed access to the tax service server only after authentication of the digital certificate.

69. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 61, wherein the digital certificate is stored on a computer of the user.

70. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 61, further comprising a code segment that receives a tax payment of the user by the government entity utilizing the network.

71. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 70, further comprising a code segment that stores a record of the tax payment in the database of the government entity, wherein the record of the tax payment represents an indication that the payment has been submitted.

72. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 71, further comprising a code segment that receives from the user a request for the record of the tax payment utilizing the network.

73. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 72, further comprising a code segment that sends the record of the tax payment to the user utilizing the network upon successful authentication of the first identity of the user.

74. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 61, further comprising a code segment that allows the user to print the receipt.

75. (withdrawn) A computer program as recited in claim 61, further comprising a code segment that formats the record of the tax forms for being printed by the user.